

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 09118 011338Z
ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-07 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 SSO-00 NSCE-00

AID-01 /025 W

-----011340Z 022308 /43

O 011314Z JUN 77 ZFF4

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

USLO RIYADH IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

USAF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5639

RAMSTEIN 7806 OPERATIONS SQUADRON IMMEDIATE

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FOR CODEL STONE FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (STONE, RICHARD B.)

SUBJECT: CODEL STONE

REF: TUNIS 3821 (NOTAL)

1. TIME FOR YOUR MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SADAT HAS NOW
BEEN FIXED FOR 1100, JUNE 8, IN ISMAILIA.

2. IN LIGHT REFTEL, I CONTACTED PRESIDENCY DIRECTOR
HASSAN KAMEL TODAY TO REQUEST AUTHORITY FOR YOUR
AIRCRAFT TO FLY DIRECTLY FROM RIYADH TO ISMAILIA AND
TO LEAVE DIRECTLY FROM ISMAILIA FOR WASHINGTON ON
JUNE 8. IN RESPONSE KAMEL'S QUERY WHAT TYPE OF AIRCRAFT
YOU ARE FLYING, I INDICATED C-140. KAMEL EXPRESSED
SOME DOUBT THAT THE ISMAILIA AIRFIELD IS SAFE FOR AN
AIRCRAFT OF THAT SIZE, BUT UNDERTOOK TO LOOK INTO THE
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MATTER. HE ALSO NOTED THAT SUEZ CANAL AREA IS STILL AN
ACTIVE AIR DEFENSE ZONE. KAMEL AGREED THAT IF
ISMAILIA AIRFIELD IS SAFE AND IF THERE ARE NO MINWAR
OBJECTIONS A DIRECT FLIGHT TO ISMAILIA WOULD BE A LOT
EASIER. HE PROMISED TO LET ME KNOW ASAP.

3. ALTHOUGH YOUR FLIGHT CREW MUST MAKE DECISION, DATT

(AIR FORCE GENERAL, PILOT) DOES NOT RECOMMEND USE OF ISMAILIA AIRFIELD. RUNWAY IS TOO SHORT (3960 FEET) FOR C-140 ON WHAT IS CERTAIN TO BE A HOT DAY. MOREOVER, OUR EXPERIENCE IS ISMAILIA FIELD HAS ONLY J-1 SOVIET FUEL OF UNKNOWN QUALITY DUE TO HANDLING AND STORAGE INADEQUACIES. APART FROM ACTIVE AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM IN THAT AREA, DATT ALSO NOTES THAT ISMAILIA AIRFIELD CONDITIONS DO NOT MEET MINIMUM USAF STANDARDS. FIELD IS SIMPLY NOT SAFE. IN ANY CASE, WE MUST NOW WAIT FOR EGYPTIAN REPLY. THEREAFTER YOU CAN DECIDE WHETHER TO RISK USING ISMAILIA AIRFIELD OR TO COME TO CAIRO AS INITIALLY PLANNED.

4. IN MEANTIME, WE WILL HOLD YOUR JUNE 7 RESERVATIONS AT THE HILTON. WE NOW ALSO HAVE RESERVATIONS FOR THE CREW AT MENA HOUSE. AS PROMISED, PRESIDENCY DIRECTOR HAS LAID ON CESSNA AIRCRAFT FOR MORNING JUNE 8 TO FLY YOU FROM CAIRO TO ISMAILIA AND BACK IF YOU DECIDE TO REVERT TO THIS OPTION.

5. IN ANY CASE, LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN EITHER CAIRO OR ISMAILIA. AMBASSADOR GHORBAL SENDS HIS WARM REGARDS.

EILTS

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 01-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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